

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Nana K. Ayisi Art Unit: 1648
Serial No. to be assigned Examiner: to be assigned
Filed: Division of SN 09/319,545
filed June 9, 1999
Title: ANTIVIRAL AND ANTIBACTERIAL ACTIVITIES OF EXTRACTS
FROM EIGHT PLANTS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

This is filed as an amendment to the divisional application filed today. Please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 1 with the following rewritten paragraph:

---This application is a division of USSN 09/319,545 filed June 9, 1999 which is a National Phase Entry of PCT/CA97/00971, filed September 4, 1998 which is a continuation in part of USSN 08/762,260 filed December 9, 1996.---

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In the Claims:

Please cancel all claims on file. Please add new claims 19-30 as follows:

19. (New) A method comprising: contacting a virus-infected cell with an extract from a plant selected from the group consisting of *Ocimum gratissimum*, *Ficus polita*, *Clausena anisata*, *Alchornea cordifolia*, *Sansevieria liberica*, *Combretum aphanopetalum* and *Elaeophorbium drupifera* in an amount effective to inhibit cytopathic effects of the virus.
20. (New) The method according to claim 19, wherein the virus is human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), herpes simplex virus (HSV), human cytomegalovirus (HCMV), poliovirus (PV), measles virus (MV) or yellow fever virus (YMV).
21. (New) The method according to claim 19, wherein the extract is from *Ocimum gratissimum*.
22. (New) The method according to claim 21, wherein the virus is HIV-1, HCMV, HSV-1 or HSV-2.
23. (New) The method according to claim 19, wherein the extract is from *Sansevieria liberica* and the virus is HSV-1, HSV-2, HCMV, PV, MV or YMV.
24. (New) The method according to claim 23, wherein the virus is HSV-1 or HSV-2.
25. (New) The method according to claim 19, wherein the extract is from *Ficus polita*.
26. (New) The method according to claim 25, wherein the virus is HIV-1, HSV-1 or HSV-2.
27. (New) The method according to claim 19, wherein the extract is from *Clausena anisata* and the virus is HIV-1, HSV-1 or HSV-2.

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28. (New) The method according to claim 19, wherein the extract is from *Combretum aphanopetalum* and the virus is HSV-1 or HSV-2.
29. (New) The method according to claim 19, wherein the extract is from *Alchornea cordifolia* and the virus is HIV-1, HSV-1 or HSV-2.
30. (New) The method according to claim 19, wherein the extract is from *Elaeophorbia drupifera* and the virus is HIV-1, HSV-1 or HSV-2.

REMARKS

The paragraph on page 1 referring to related applications has been amended to refer to parent application USSN 09/319,545 filed on June 9, 1999.

The claims from the parent application have been deleted and new claims 19-30 have been added. New independent claim 19 is directed to a method comprising contacting a virus-infected cell with an extract from a plant selected from the group consisting of *Ocimum gratissimum*, *Ficus polita*, *Clausena anisata*, *Alchornea cordifolia*, *Sansevieria liberica*, *Combretum aphanopetalum* and *Elaeophorbia drupifera* in an amount effective to inhibit cytopathic effects of the virus. Support for this claim can be found, for example, on pages 7 and 18 of the specification. New claims 20-30 all depend ultimately from claim 1. Support for these claims can be found, for example, on pages 7-10 and 18.

The Applicant points out that the new claims are not directed to a method for treating AIDS or HIV infection. Rather, the claims are directed to a method for inhibiting the cytopathic effects of viruses.

No new matter has been introduced by way of the amendments or new claims.

Please find together with this letter a Petition for Extension of Time and the Application Transmittal Form.